

REMARKS

Summary of the Office Action

Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,599,050 to Sjöö ("Sjöö").

Summary of the Response to the Office Action

Applicants have amended claims 1, 8 and 9.

Claims 1-9 are pending.

The Information Disclosure Statement

It is requested that the Examiner indicate consideration of the references cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed on November 10, 2003 by returning a copy of the corresponding initialed PTO Form 1449 to Applicants. Please note that this is the second such request.

The Claim of Priority

Applicants request that in the next Office communication, the Examiner acknowledge receipt of the certified copies of priority documents Swedish Patent Application No. 0203356-1, filed in the U.S.P.T.O. on November 2, 2004, and Swedish Patent Application No. 0202029-5, filed in the U.S.P.T.O. on February 7, 2006. Please note that this also is the second such request.

All Claims Define Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Sjöö.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b). At page 3, ll. 2-3, the Office Action recites “[t]here is no structure recited to prohibit unwanted mating.” While Applicants disagree with the Office Action’s assertion, Applicants have amended claims 1, 8 and 9 to expedite prosecution.

Claim 1 recites an apparatus for chip removing machining, including a first part and a second part coupled together by a coupling. The coupling includes two interacting surfaces and a clamping member for forcing the surfaces together. The interacting surfaces are profiled with male and female members, respectively that are intercoupled to establish a firm locking of the first and second parts against each other. The first and the second parts are provided with aligned holes for receiving the clamping member. The male and the female members are oriented on the interacting surfaces such that the male and female members intercouple only in a single position, the orientation of the male and female members prevents the male and female members from intercoupling in another position. Applicants submit that claim 1 clearly recites structure to prohibit unwanted intercoupling. Support for claim 1 is provided at, for example, paragraphs 0005, 0033, 0035 and 0036 of Applicants’ specification as originally filed.

In contrast, Sjöö is directed to a tool coupling including a holder and a cutting insert adapter that may be connected with each other in multiple positions. As described at col. 4, ll. 11-28, and illustrated in Figs. 1-3 of Sjöö, the axial end surfaces of holder 1 and adapter 3 include serrations 12 and 16 respectively. The groove configuration of the respective serrations

12, 16 have a mutually adapted design, and are oriented parallel to each other. Displacement of a stud screw 5 in the center hole 17 brings the holder 1 and the adapter 3 together until the serrations 12, 16 are in complete engagement with each other. As described at col. 6, ll. 19-24 of Sjöö, the tool coupling is symmetrical in relation to its longitudinal center axis 13, which means that the holder may be used both for tools of right-hand type and left-hand type. In certain special applications, for instance in connection with certain special types of turning, the adapter 3 may be rotated 180° relative to the holder 1. As stated at col. 6, ll. 25-26, "[T]his may be effected by the tool coupling according to the present invention [of Sjöö]." Thus, Sjöö clearly discloses a tool coupling including a holder and a cutting insert adapter that may be connected with each other in multiple positions. Applicants respectfully submit that Sjöö does not teach or suggest at least the features of male and the female members oriented on the interacting surfaces such that the male and female members intercouple only in a single position, the orientation of the male and female members prevents the male and female members from intercoupling in another position, as recited in claim 1. Moreover, Applicants submit that Sjöö teaches away from male and the female members intercoupling only in a single position.

Claims 2-7 depend from claim 1, and recite the same combination of allowable features recited in claim 1, as well as additional features that define over the prior art. Accordingly, it is requested that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), of claims 1-7, be withdrawn.

Claim 8 recites a cutting head for chip removing machining including a head surface adapted to intercouple with a holder surface of a holder. The head surface includes an axially irregular surface profile defined by portions extending axially to different extents than other portions. The axially irregular surface profile is adapted to be received in a corresponding axially irregular surface profile of the holder surface at a first angular position about the center axis with respect to the holder surface. The surface profile of the head surface precludes reception thereof in the surface profile of the holder surface at all other angular positions about the axis such that the head surface and the holder surface intercouple only in a single position and no other position. Claim 9 recites a holder adapted to be coupled with a cutting head for chip removing machining.

As described above, Sjöö discloses a tool coupling including a holder and a cutting insert adapter that may be connected with each other in multiple positions. Accordingly, it is requested that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), of claims 8 and 9, be withdrawn. Applicants submit that all pending claims, *i.e.* claims 1-9, are in condition for immediate allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance, and respectfully requests reconsideration and timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative to expedite prosecution. A favorable action is awaited.

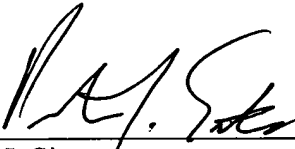
EXCEPT for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0573. This paragraph is intended to be a **CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME** in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

DRINKER BIDDLE & REATH LLP

Dated: August 3, 2006

By:


Peter J. Sistare
Reg. No. 48,183

Customer No. 055694
DRINKER BIDDLE & REATH LLP
1500 K Street, N.W., Suite 1100
Washington, DC 20005-1209
Tel.: (202) 842-8800
Fax: (202) 842-8465